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time allowed, the Government ordered that the proceedings already instituted against the company for the recovery of the entire loan amounts should be pursued.

The company again in August 1952 reported that they had made necessary arrangements for getting a loan of Rs. 3½ lakhs from a financier at Bombay and therefore requested the Government for issue of orders for staying the proceedings pending for the recovery of the loan. As it was found that the affairs of the company were in a bad state of way, that the financiers who previously came forward to take over the management were falling back, the Government issued orders for the attachment of the properties of the company hypothecated to Government against the loan. The properties have been attached under Section 28 of the Revenue Recovery Act with effect from 6th December 1952 and the Manager of the company has been duly informed by the notice of attachment served on him that unless the arrears with interest and expenses are paid up by 15th January 1953, the properties of the company will be brought to sale. It was subsequently reported that at the General Body meeting of the shareholders of the Metal Industries, Limited, Shoranur, held on 21st January 1953, the General Body resolved to accept the resignation of the existing Board of Directors including that of the Managing Director and that it was also resolved to accept the nomination of a new Board of Directors including Sri C. P. Karunakara Menon. In his letter, dated 21st January 1953, Sri Karunakara Menon has requested Government, among other things, to allow the books of the factory to be audited at once. The Government have examined the requests of Sri Karunakara Menon and have decided that the books of the company may be made available for the audit. That is the present stage. After looking into the accounts, it is hoped that the Directors or Sri Karunakara Menon will inform the Government whether the company will reopen the factory or not."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think this question came up before the House a few days ago. Next question."

Salaries of the officers of the former Pudukkottai State Service.

* 208-C *Q.*—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state— 8-40 a.m.

(*a*) why some officers of the former Pudukkottai State Service have been paid the Madras State salaries from 1st January 1949 and why others from 1st August 1949; and

(*b*) the departments where payment has been made from 1st January 1949 and departments where payments have been made from 1st August 1949?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"(*a*) & (*b*) The date 1st August 1949 in the question is taken to be an error

for 1st September 1949. On certain representations, the Government have re-examined the question and they have since decided to allow Madras scales of pay from 1st January 1949 to all the qualified staff who were allowed to draw such scales from 1st September 1949. Orders are accordingly being issued. State employees who were eligible for the Madras scales of pay according to the general principles and who were absorbed prior to 14th October 1949 were allowed re-fixation of pay with effect from 1st January 1949. Those who had not been absorbed and about whom proposals were pending with the Government on that date including those lacking requisite departmental qualifications were allowed to draw Madras scales of pay with effect from 1st September 1949. As it was considered that allowing the Madras scales of pay to persons who had not been actually absorbed by 14th October 1949 was a pure concession, the orders were not given retrospective effect for any period prior to 1st September 1949. The orders applied equally to all the departments."

Disafforestation in Repalle taluk.

* 208-D *Q.*—Sri V. SRI KRISHNA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state with reference to the reply to starred question No. 65 on 5th November 1952, what action has been taken in the matter?

The Hon. Dr. R. NAGAN GOUDA:—" A report from the Chief Conservator of Forests has since been received and the matter is under consideration."

Sri V. SRI KRISHNA:—" Sir, during the last session also when the same question was put the Hon. Minister replied that the matter was under consideration. Since then nearly six months have elapsed and may I know how long will it be under the consideration of the Government? "

The Hon. Dr. R. NAGAN GOUDA:—" I believe, during the last session, it was stated that the matter was under consideration, because the Chief Conservator of Forests was asked to go and inspect the area. The Government have received a large number of applications for disreservation of forests in the Guntur district at Ottapal, Aduguladi and a number of other places and so the Conservator was requested to go and immediately report after inspection of the areas."

Sri PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" May I know, Sir, the summary of the report which the Conservator gave? "

The Hon. Dr. R. NAGAN GOUDA:—" It is still under consideration and I cannot say anything about it now."

Sri V. SRI KRISHNA:—" Sir, is the Minister aware of the fact that the District Forest Officer has already rejected the applications of local people? "